1;Dobrizhoffer M-5 (ca. 1760) 1822
514 Abipon 514

the family to the public celebration of victories. 203
On his departure, he is dismissed by the women 527
with the usual percussion of the lips. In the 727
same manner he enters the dwellings of the
other hordesmen, always accompanied by a [554
crowd of boys. The office of crier, which the [756]
noble Abipones despise, is generally performed 624]
by some juggler of advanced age and low birth.
Meantime they furnish the house, appointed for 527
the meeting, with a hasty apparatus. The 727.
floor is covered with the skins of tigers and of
kine, upon which the guests sit. A temporary [417]
erection is made of reeds, upon which they
place the hairy scalps of their slain enemies, as
trophies. When they prefer celebrating the
victory without the tent in the open air, they
hang these trophies upon spears fixed upright
in the circle in which they sit. At sun-set, the [715]
persons invited all flock to the appointed place,
where they sit down on the ground, having
leathern vessels of mead set in the midst of
them, though the drinking does not commence
till about morning, the whole night being spent
in chaunting their victories.

They never sing all at once, but only two at 527
a time, always greatly varying their voices from 533
high to low, one either taking up, or following, 727
or interrupting the other, and sometimes
accompanying him. Now one, now the other,